AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Cancelled)

2.   (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a portable computer having a LPC bus for peripheral devices;

a docking station receiving the portable computer and peripheral devices;

a serial switched topology used to connect peripheral devices to a computer coupling the portable computer to the docking station, the serial switched topology communicating commands or data between the LPC bus and the peripheral devices;

~~The computer system of Claim 1 further comprising~~ a hybrid ~~PCI_Express~~ serial switched topology downstream port coupled to the LPC bus and to a computer host for receiving ~~PCI_Express~~ serial switched topology packets and LPC commands or data for transmission along a ~~PCI_Express fabric~~ the serial switched topology.

3.   (Currently Amended) The computer system of Claim 2 further comprising a hybrid ~~PCI_Express~~ serial switched topology upstream port couplable to a peripheral device and receiving ~~PCI_Express~~ serial switched topology packets and LPC Transaction Packets from the ~~PCI_Express fabric~~ the serial switched topology used to connect the peripheral devices to the computer.

4.   (Currently Amended) The computer system of Claim 2 wherein the hybrid ~~PCI_Express~~ serial switched topology downstream port receives a half-duplex LPC bus Transaction Packet and converts it to two full duplex ~~PCI_Express~~ serial switched topology packets for transmission on the ~~PCI_Express fabric~~ the serial switched topology used to the connect the peripheral devices to the computer.

5.   (Original) The computer system of Claim 4 further comprising a LPC packet manager which places a long wait sync clock signal on the LPC bus while awaiting a reply to a bi-directional LPC transaction data packet.

6.   (Cancelled)

7.   (Currently Amended) In a computer docking station to receive a portable computer and peripheral devices, a communications link between the portable computer and the peripheral devices comprising:

a serial switched topology used to connect peripheral devices to a computer couplable to the portable computer and at least one of the peripheral devices, the serial switched topology communicating commands or data between a computer in the docking station and a peripheral device connected thereto;

The computer docking station of Claim 6 further comprising a hybrid PCI_Express serial switched topology downstream port couplable to a LPC bus of a computer and to a computer host for receiving PCI_Express serial switched topology packets and LPC Transaction Packets for transmission along PCI_Express fabric the serial switched topology.

8.   (Currently Amended) The computer docking station of Claim 7 further comprising a hybrid PCI_Express serial switched topology upstream port couplable to a peripheral device and receiving LPC Transaction Packets from the PCI_Express fabric a serial switched topology.

9.   (Currently Amended) The computer docking station of Claim 7 wherein the hybrid PCI_Express serial switched topology downstream port receives a half-duplex LPC bus Transaction packet and converts it to two full duplex PCI_Express serial switched topology packets for transmission on the PCI_Express fabric serial switched topology.

10.   (Original) The computer docking station of Claim 9 further comprising a LPC packet manager which places a long wait sync clock signal on the LPC bus while awaiting a reply to a bi-directional LPC transaction data packet.

11.   (Currently Amended) A modified ~~PCI Express fabric comprising~~ serial switched topology used to connect peripheral devices to a computer comprising:

a hybrid ~~PCI Express~~ serial switched topology downstream port couplable to a computer LPC bus and to a computer host for receiving ~~PCI Express~~ serial switched topology packets and LPC data or commands for transmission along a ~~PCI Express fabric~~ the serial switched topology; and

a hybrid ~~PCI Express~~ serial switched topology upstream port couplable to a computer peripheral device and receiving ~~PCI Express~~ serial switched topology packets and packetized LPC data or commands from a ~~PCI Express fabric~~ the serial switched topology and separating out the LPC data or commands for use by the computer peripheral device.

12.   (Currently Amended) The ~~PCI Express fabric~~ serial switched topology used to connect peripheral devices to a computer of Claim 11 further comprising a ~~PCI Express fabric~~ serial switched topology coupled between the hybrid ~~PCI Express~~ serial switched topology downstream port and the hybrid ~~PCI Express~~ serial switched topology upstream port.

13.   (Currently Amended) The ~~PCI Express fabric~~ serial switched topology used to connect peripheral devices to a computer of Claim 11 wherein the hybrid ~~PCI Express~~ serial switched topology downstream port receives a half-duplex LPC bus Transaction Packet and converts it to two full duplex ~~PCI Express~~ serial switched topology packets for transmission on the ~~PCI Express fabric~~ serial switched topology.

14.   (Currently Amended) The ~~PCI Express fabric~~ serial switched topology used to connect peripheral devices to a computer of Claim 13 further comprising a LPC packet manager which places a long wait sync clock signal on the LPC bus while awaiting a reply to a bi-directional LPC transaction data packet.

15.   (Currently Amended) A method of coupling [[a]] LPC bus Transaction Packets across a boundary between a portable computer and a docking station utilizing a ~~PCI_Express fabric~~ serial switched topology used to connect peripheral devices to a computer comprising:

controlling the data flow on the ~~PCI_Express fabric~~ serial switched topology to insert at a first location on the ~~PCI_Express fabric~~ serial switched topology ~~PCI_Express~~ packets corresponding to LPC Transaction Packets into unused portions of the ~~PCI_Express~~ serial switched topology traffic,

receiving ~~PCI_Express~~ serial switched topology packets at a second location on the ~~PCI_Express fabric~~ serial switched topology and extracting those packets corresponding to the LPC Transaction Packets;

performing an LPC task.

16.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 15 further comprising converting half-duplex LPC bus Transaction Packets into two full duplex ~~PCI_Express~~ serial switched topology packets for transmission on the ~~PCI_Express fabric~~ serial switched topology.

17.   (Currently Amended) In a method of coupling an LPC bus across a boundary between a portable computer and a docking station, a method of sending serial IRQ or DMA requests from a peripheral device to a processor, comprising:

generating in an LPC slave coupled to the peripheral device a ~~PCI_Express~~ serial switched topology used to connect peripheral devices to a computer upstream packet requesting a serial IRQ request or DMA request;

injecting the ~~PCI_Express~~ serial switched topology upstream packet into the ~~PCI_Express fabric~~ serial switched topology;

recovering the ~~PCI_Express~~ serial switched topology upstream packet in the docking station;

utilizing the recovered ~~PCI_Express~~ serial switched topology upstream packet to generate sideband signals to an LPC controller.

18.   (Original) The method of Claim 17 further comprising:

generating a serial IRQ or DMA request in the LPC controller.